

Against the Grain

Volume 23 | Issue 6

Article 18

December 2011

People Profile: Patricia A. Hammond

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Recommended Citation

(2011) "People Profile: Patricia A. Hammond," *Against the Grain*: Vol. 23: Iss. 6, Article 18.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.7771/2380-176X.6038>

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Many do not bind journal issues. To ensure access in the NN/LM Southeastern/Atlantic Region for member libraries to older materials, the Print Collection Retention and Access Ad-hoc Committee was formed to coordinate an organized approach as libraries downsize their physical space. Through DOCLINE, NLM's automated interlibrary loan (ILL) request routing and referral system, members of the NN/LM network have a fast and effective document delivery system.⁹ A boon for small libraries is FreeShare, a cross-regional library group for DOCLINE libraries that participate in free, reciprocal lending.¹⁰ Related is an Electronic Transfer of Funds Service (EFTS) from the **University of Connecticut Health Center Library** for DOCLINE members when charges are incurred for interlibrary loan.¹¹ EFTS member libraries open a deposit account that other members can draw down when an ILL charge is assessed. This service eliminates the need for local processing of invoices.

In hospitals, justifying large expenditures for online resources is difficult, and shepherding license agreements through the approval process is challenging. In a recent survey of NN/LM Southeastern/Atlantic Region (SE/A) hospital libraries, 51.6% of the respondents said that they participate in a consortium or group purchasing arrangement to acquire access to electronic resources. Consortia are comprised of local, statewide, or regional health sciences libraries that band together for a group buying discount. Another type of discount purchasing arrangement is available through a hospital's affiliation with a multi-hospital health care system. Hospital librarians are interested in group purchasing arrangements that save both time and expense.

In most hospitals, online resources are purchased from more than one vendor and a variety of approaches are used. One approach is to subscribe to aggregated databases.

The NN/LM SE/A survey of hospital librarians revealed that 94.9% of the respondents subscribed to the *Cumulative Index to Nursing and Allied Health Literature*, making it the most popular online resource. When possible, subscribers also opt for the version that includes full-text journals. Another type of approach is to purchase a packaged collection of books or journals. The second most popular resource identified in the survey was **Wolters Kluwer's OVID E-journals**.¹² **OVID** offers several packages of online biomedical and nursing journals. Subscribing to a package is convenient to manage, but too often titles that are not needed are included, which is not economical. Smaller libraries often opt for the "a la carte" approach which allows for the flexibility of selecting specific titles but takes more time to manage. Multiple invoices must be paid, and Internet connectivity with several publishers must be maintained.

Members of the hospital and medical staffs frequently submit requests for new books, journals, or other online resources. Most requesters are unaware of the large "institutional" sub-

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Health Sciences Librarian, Sentara Potomac Hospital
Immerman Memorial Library
2300 Opitz Boulevard, Woodbridge, VA 22191
Phone: (703) 670-1331 • Fax: (703) 878-1619
<pahammon@sentara.com>
<http://www.potomachospital.com/services/medicallibrary.asp>

Patricia A. Hammond

BORN AND LIVED: I was born in Sanford, NC and grew up in Baltimore, MD.

EARLY LIFE: After graduation from **Towson State College** in MD, I didn't find a suitable teaching position. I started working as a Library Clerk at the **University of Maryland Health Sciences Library**. After another false start in Social Work, I decided that a Master's degree and career in Library Science was my calling.

PROFESSIONAL CAREER AND ACTIVITIES: My first professional job was a "dream" job because it combined my experience, education, and interests. I worked at **Western Carolina University** as a Reference Librarian and the coordinator of the government documents depository. I was library liaison and bibliographer for the School of Nursing and Allied Health and the Department of Political Science. My next job was working as a circuit-riding Area Health Education Center librarian in Northwest NC. I was hospital-based and regularly visited five other hospitals to deliver library services. For two years, I worked as the Head of Reference at the **University of Mississippi Medical Center** library in Jackson. For ten years, I was the Director of Library Services at **Cape Fear Valley Health System** in Fayetteville, NC. Before coming to my present position, I worked as the hospital-based consumer health librarian for **Virginia Commonwealth University** in Richmond.

FAMILY: I share my life with **Ken Zutavern**. My cat is named Clemson because he is an orange striped tiger like the ACC university's mascot.

IN MY SPARE TIME: I like to read (of course!), hike and picnic, and explore historic places.

FAVORITE BOOKS: My most important book is *The Bible*. *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *Exodus* left indelible impressions on my young mind. I like everything written by **Thomas Hardy** and **Margaret Maron** (a living NC fiction writer).

PET PEEVES: I try not to have them, but I do not relate well to people when they are being closed-minded.

PHILOSOPHY: From the **Rolling Stones** – "You can't always get what you want, but ya just might find, if ya try some time, you get what you need."

MOST MEMORABLE CAREER ACHIEVEMENT: My most memorable collection development achievement came after the Acquisitions Librarian at the **WCU** library passed away. I was one of three members of the library faculty appointed to a committee that managed the equitable allocation of funds, monitored spending progress, and provided support to the rest of the library faculty.

GOAL I HOPE TO ACHIEVE FIVE YEARS FROM NOW: Retirement!

HOW/WHERE DO I SEE THE INDUSTRY IN FIVE YEARS: Because of the increased life expectancy of patients, a comparative dwindling of the healthcare workforce, and the need for clinicians to spend as much time as possible engaged in patient care, the need for hospital librarians will increase. The librarian will be fully integrated into the patient care team. 🐾



scription rate that libraries must pay. *Library Journal* reported the average price for a journal subscription in the Health Sciences to be \$1,398 in 2010. Librarians frequently explain the "cost benefit analysis" concept to requesters. A reality is that if a medical subspecialist

requests a journal title, it is unlikely that the library will add the subscription if only a handful of staff will use it. On the average, nursing books and journals are much less expensive. Ready access to vendor **COUNTER** (Count-

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